PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Attn: OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS

Notice of Allowance Mailed: March 19, 2004

Confirmation No.: 7937 Group Art Unit: 2877

Koichiro KOMATSU et al.

Application No.:

10/661,620

Examiner:

R. Rosenberger

Filed:

September 15, 2003

Docket No.: 105173.01

For:

SURFACE INSPECTION METHOD, SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS, AND

RECORDING MEDIUM AND DATA SIGNAL FOR PROVIDING SURFACE INSPECTION

PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUBMISSION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT IN PARENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Notice of Allowance and a Notice of Allowability were mailed by the Patent Office for this application on March 19, 2004. In the Notice of Allowability (box 4) the Examiner asserted that none of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received. However, the certified copy of the priority application was submitted in parent Application No. 09/481,503. The Examiner can view the image file wrapper that is available over the Patent Office PAIR database, in order to confirm that the certified copy of the priority application was filed in parent Application No. 09/481,503.

Acknowledgement of receipt of the priority application in the parent application is requested.

espectfully submitted,

Mario A. Costantino Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Date: April 2, 2004

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE **AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461